**Water samples of thirty rivers**

3093. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether water samples of 30 rivers in northern and north-eastern hilly States of our country have shown presence of metals and pesticide residues above the permissible limit;

(b) if so, whether the Central Government has made any such study with regard to all the rivers in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, river-wise; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir. As informed by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), Ministry of Environment & Forests (MoEF), out of 48 rivers being monitored by them in North and North Eastern Region for metals and pesticides residues, the observed values in 19 rivers with respect to some metals are exceeding the acceptable limit for ambient waters at a few locations. Further, the levels of pesticides observed as per CPCB are not exceeding the acceptable limits.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

**Assistance for backward States under AIBP**

†3094. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the norms with regard to assistance to be provided to backward States under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme;

(b) whether it is a fact that States have complained to the Central Government about discrimination in norms for assistance to backward State like Madhya Pradesh against hilly States;

(c) if so the details of efforts being made to do away with the anomalies in the said norms;

(d) whether Government has any proposal under its consideration for revision of said programme; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme central grant of 90% is provided to the major/medium projects and surface water minor irrigation schemes of the special category States and Koraput, Bolangir and Kalahandi districts of Orissa. Major and medium projects of non special category States benefiting drought prone/tribal/flood prone area are eligible for up to 90% grant under AIBP depending on the extent of such area benefited from project and included in AIBP. Surface water minor irrigation schemes of non special category states (as per eligible criteria specified in AIBP guidelines) benefiting drought prone/tribal area are eligible for 90% grant under AIBP. All other major/ medium projects are eligible for 25% grant of project cost included in AIBP.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.